

**REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing is respectfully requested. Claims 1-12 are pending in this application. Claim 11 has been withdrawn from consideration in view of the present restriction requirement.

***ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT***

In the Official Action dated May 30, 2008, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between

**Group I** (claims 1-10 and 12), drawn to a distributor plate; and

**Group II** (claim 11), drawn to a roter.

Applicants hereby elect **Group I**, claims 1-10 and 12, for prosecution in the above-identified application. This election is made with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of claims 1-12 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group would necessarily encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining groups. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be performed without serious burden. MPEP § 803 clearly states that "If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on its merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants in duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the Restriction Requirement and to examine claims 1-10 and 12 in this application. Claim 11 is withdrawn pending withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement or, alternatively, later rejoinder.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Applicants respectfully assert that no fee is due in connection with the filing of this response. However, if there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0573.

Respectfully submitted,

**DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP**

Dated: June 9, 2008

By: 

Jeffrey G. Killian  
Reg. No. 50,891

**Customer No. 055694**  
**DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP**  
1500 K Street, N.W. Suite 1100  
Washington, D.C. 20005-1209  
Tel: (202) 842-8800  
Fax: (202) 842-8465